

# Expanding Partnerships to Strengthen Africa's Higher Education Institutions

Narciso Matos, Executive Director,  
Foundation For Community Development,  
panel at the Africa Regional Higher  
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# Foundation for Community Development

- **Vision:** Prosperous Mozambican communities freed from hunger, disease, poverty and active agents of their destiny
- **Goal:** Empower communities for them to identify and work towards eliminating the root causes of their poverty and to be able to build a better future

# Who we work with

- Communities, especially rural and power
- Civil Society Organizations
- Community Based Organizations
- Non Governmental Organizations
- Public and private Research centres and HEIs
- Parliament, Government, Private sector
- Individuals, single persons

# What we do

- Improving **agriculture, nutrition** and access to food
- Building **water** holes and latrines and enabling communities' access to clean water and **sanitation**
- Building **health** centers and fighting **HIV/AIDS** and malaria, assisting **OVCs** and the sick
- Building classrooms and housing for teachers and improving **access** to schools, mainly **to basic education**
- Enhancing the **capacity of** community **leaders**
- **Advocating** nationally, regionally and internationally for **policies** and actions that favor people and communities

# How we do it

- Making grants and channeling resources to communities through CSOs, CBOs, NGOs, farmers' associations, students (female), etc.
- Building the capacity of the above
- Advocating for new policies, e.g. children-sensible budgets (based on tracing government expenditures)
- Convening conferences and other events

# HEIs and research centres are essential allies

- In scope and size of what we do we cannot replace or outperform government. **It's simply not our goal!**
- FDC tries new ways, builds examples, stimulates replication. **This is what we do!**
- Working smarter, doing things better, innovate . **This is our number 1 challenge!**
- It is about **knowledge**, people's **skills**, communities **empowerment** and **ownership!**

# Studies a Research

- **Indigenous knowledge**: influence on messages and initiatives to prevent and combat AIDS
- **HIV**: testing prevention through microbicides
- **Malaria**: testing a vaccine, GIS tracing disease
- **Good governance**: government performance related to the Africa Union Peer Review Mechanism
- **Urban poverty** and youth unemployment

# Training and Capacity Building

- **Nurses and health personnel** to improve the coverage and efficiency of 0-5 national vaccination program
- **Social workers** on children's rights and prevention of child-trafficking
- Districts **council members** on governance and budgeting
- **CBOs** in fund raising, financial admin., reporting, etc



# Conferences

- Green revolution
- Food security in the face of increased prices
- Xenophobia: its causes and prevention methods
- Rights of rural farmers
- Thank you very much!